

# Nine Scientists Look at Religion

*"The history of the past century suggests that religious man can still err greatly, that religion needs the spirit of science to help it to be its true self, and that the rejection of religion leads to grave misunderstandings of man's predicament and possibilities."*

—The Most Reverend Dr. Michael Ramsey, Archbishop of Canterbury

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I do not know what I may appear to the world, but to myself I seem to have been only like a boy playing on the seashore, diverting myself in now and then finding a smoother pebble or a prettier shell than ordinary, whilst the great ocean of truth lay all undiscovered before me.

—Sir Isaac Newton, mathematician

Only a higher power than man can control the powers of atomic energy.

—Lise Meitner, atomic physicist

There can be no conflict between science and religion. Science is a reliable method of finding truth. Religion is the search for a satisfying way of life. Science is growing; yet a world that has science needs, as never before, the inspiration that religion offers.

—Arthur Compton, physicist

I believe in an immortal soul. Science has proved that nothing disintegrates into nothingness. Life and soul, therefore, cannot disintegrate into nothingness, and so are immortal.

—Wernher von Braun, missile expert

If a universe could create itself, it would embody the powers of a creator, and we should be forced to conclude that the universe itself is a God.

—George Davis, physicist

The probability of life originating from accident is comparable to the probability of the unabridged dictionary resulting from an explosion in a printing shop.

—Edwin Conklin, biologist

The man who regards his own life and that of his fellow creatures as meaningless is not merely unfortunate but almost disqualified for life.

—Albert Einstein, theoretical physicist

A deeper and firmer belief in God can be the only result of a better insight into truth.

—Albert Winchester, biologist

I give myself over to my rapture. I tremble; my blood leaps. God has waited 6,000 years for a looker-on to His work. His wisdom is infinite; that of which we are ignorant is contained in Him, as well as the little that we know.

—Johannes Kepler, astronomer